

**City of Ojai  
RESOLUTION NO. 18-39**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OJAI  
SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION TO THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD  
FOR A GRANT FUNDING REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT  
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, California and the Ojai Valley began experiencing a severe and continuing drought in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Ojai Valley relies on local water sources for its water, principally Lake Casitas and local groundwater supplies; and

WHEREAS, Lake Casitas fell below 40% full during the summer of 2016; and

WHEREAS, even as some portions of the state have experienced a reduction in drought conditions, the hydrologically separate Ojai Valley continues to experience drought conditions and Lake Casitas' level continues to drop, and is at approximately 33% as of August 2, 2018,

WHEREAS, as the drought continues, groundwater sources available locally in the Ojai Valley will become depleted and the remaining Lake Casitas water supply will become a primary source of water to supplement uses that otherwise rely on local groundwater sources; and

WHEREAS, sustainable management of the Ojai Valley's groundwater and surface water resources to ensure those resources longevity requires a collaborative, regional effort bringing together all key agencies, including the City and the agencies responsible for groundwater, surface water, environmental water and Lake Casitas; and

WHEREAS, the state Wildlife Conservation Board has invited applications for collaborative regional grants to multi-agency partnerships working together to sustainably manage regional water resources, enhance instream flows while increasing water security; and

WHEREAS, the City is a partner together with other agencies and stakeholders in the region in studying, developing, and implementing regional, sustainable water management strategies; and

WHEREAS, the City supports and is a partner in the Ojai Valley regional sustainable water management grant application to the state Wildlife Conservation Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Ojai that:

City of Ojai  
City Council Resolution 18-39

**SECTION 1.** The City Council hereby determines that the foregoing findings are true and correct, and incorporates them herein by reference.

**SECTION 2.** The City of Ojai agrees to be a partner in the Ventura River Regional Water Management Framework for Instream Flow Enhancement and Water Security application to the state Wildlife Conservation Board for an approximately \$1.8 million grant to fund regional water sustainability projects to enhance instream flows and water security, including the City's water coordination and groundwater recharge design projects. The City's agreement to be an applicant and partner in this grant application is a commitment to support the application. The City Council will, if the grant is awarded, evaluate and approve individual grant-funded projects. The City Council hereby directs the City Manager to execute the necessary documents to apply for this state grant.

City of Ojai  
City Council Resolution 18-39

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Ojai of the County of Ventura, State of California, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

**AYES:** Blatz, Francina, Haney, Johnston, Weirick  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

  
John F. Johnston, Mayor  
8-30-2018  
Date Signed

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail Davis, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Summers, City Attorney